

Clelia 614

Pilot: Don Liberature

Obs 1: Chris Koenig

Obs 2: Jennifer Arcuri

Date: 09/02/01

Visibility: 40'

Depth range: 300'

Time: 10:30-14:00

Sebastian 614

Objectives: Fish assessment, Filming and Evaluation of 2000 Restoration Trials/Reefballs

Habitat: The Sabastian area surveyed consists of large rolling dunes/ridges with about 100% dead *Oculina* rubble covering them. One small isolated live *Oculina* head was seen on the peak of a ridge. The entire area looks very desolate until one comes upon the reefball sites.

Invertebrates:

- Many black long spined urchin were seen over the whole area and on the reefballs.
- A beautiful white/lime green stalked anemone (Cerianthid) was observed standing all alone on the peak of a ridge.
- A sea spider (Pychnogonid) found a home on one of the reefballs.
- A few brittle stars (Ophiuroidea) were scattered throughout the area.

Human Impacts:

- at least 5 track-type marks were seen

***Restoration sites:**

- Many of the fish species seen on this dive inhabited these sites (B1a,b,c):
 - One reefblock site had no live *Oculina* but good fish habitat
 - Reefball B1a had a coral transplant still on it that was partially alive.
 - At site B1b, 7 reefballs were seen in same area. No live coral was observed.
 - A broken part of one of the reeferisks (PVC pipe) was found on top of a slope all alone. No other disks were found in this area. Some track-type marks were observed.
 - At another site there were 20 reefballs. 3 reefballs were observed closely. Of the 3 one had no live coral growth, one had possible live coral growth, and the 3rd had live *Oculina*.

Fish:

Overall fish abundance was low for the Sabastian area except for around the reefball sites.

- The Anthiids heavily occupied the reefballs and reefblock area. *Holacanthus bermudensis* were only seen around these areas.
- A group of 10+ *Seriola dumerili* and *Seriola rivoliana* followed the sub throughout the dive.

Commercially Important Species

- **4 Mycteroperca phenax-** A few Mycteroperca phenax were spotted at most of the reefball sites. The largest of the Mycteroperca phenax observed occurred on the reefball site with the most balls (20). There were 2 males. One put on a greyhead display probably as an act of aggressive behavior towards the other.
- **3 Mycteroperca microlepis-** A large male Mycteroperca microlepis came to greet the sub upon descent high in the water column. Other gag were spotted around the ridge slopes.
- **1 Epinephelus niveatus -** This snowy was seen inhabiting the reefblock site.

Other Species Observed:

	Acanthurus sp.		Equetus lanceolatus		Paralichthys sp.
A	Anthiinae		Equetus sp.	S	Plectranthias garrupellus
	Apogon sp		Equetus umbrosus		Plectrypops retrospinus
	Bodianus pulchellus		Equetus iwamotoi	S	Pomacetrus sp.
S	Centropristis ocyurus		Gymnothorax moringa		Priacanthus arenatus
	Centropristis striata	M	Halichores bathyphilus	S	Pristigenys alta
	Centropristis fuscua		Halichores sp		Rypticus maculatus
M	Chaetodon aya	M	Hemanthias vivanus		Scorpaena
	Chaetodon ocellatus	F	Holacanthus bermudensis		Serranus flaviventris
F	Chaetodon sedentarias		Holacanthus ciliaris	M	Serranus phoebe
	Chaetodon sp.	A	Holanthias martinicensis	M	Seriola dumerili
	Chromis cyanea		Holocentrus adscensionis	F	Seriola rivoliana
M	Chromis enchrysurus		Holocentrus sp.		Synodus sp
	Chromis scotti		Labridae		Callionymidae
	Decodon puellaris		Liopropoma eukrines		Canthigaster urosticta
	Diplectrum formosum		Ogcocephalus sp.	S	Canthigaster sp

Good shots:

3chip1

1. Reefblock site with heavily encrusted attached buoy. No live coral seen here.
Snowy grouper as well as many small Anthiids have made this a home.
11:19Rt...52:16tape
614-1.mpg
614-1.jpg
2. Isolated live coral colony on top of a ridge. Fish associated with it are Anthiids,
Bank Butterflyfish, Yellowtail reeffish, and Greenband wrasses.
11:29RT...01:02:57tape
614-2.mpg
614-2.jpg
3. Large female gag on ridge slope.
11:31RT...01:04:53tape
614-3.mpg
614-3.jpg

3chip2

4. Dense rubble bottom. This is what most of the area looks like.
11:53RT....20:31tape
614-4.mpg
614-4.jpg
5. 1st reefball the sub came upon. The Oculina transplant is partially alive and a
variety of species are associate with this area including one small Scamp, Reef
Butterflyfish and RoughTongue Bass.
54:26 tape
614-5.mpg
614-5.jpg

3chip 3

6. Stalked white anemone on ridge peak.
12:54rt...15:27tape
614-6.mpg
614-6.jpg
7. Isolated PVC pipe from missing disk site.
13:11RT... 32:58tape
614-7.mpg
614-7.jpg
8. Barren ridge area
13:15RT....36:43
614-8.mpg
614-8.jpg
9. Large greyhead phase scamp in the 20 reefball site showing an aggressive display
to another large male in the area.
13:28RT....49:39 tape
614-9.mpg
614-9.jpg
10. Track-like markings in rubble
13:04....25:35tape
614-10.mpg

614-10.jpg

